

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for improving body weight uniformity in a target group of animals, the method comprising the step of administering to said target group of animals an anti-phospholipase A₂ (anti-PLA₂) antibody agent ~~agent that can reduce bioavailability of a prostaglandin or leukotriene lipid precursor in the animals~~ in an amount sufficient to improve the body weight uniformity.

2-4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~agent~~ anti-PLA₂ antibody is administered by a method selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ injection and oral delivery.

6. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the ~~agent~~ anti-PLA₂ antibody is administered by an injection method selected from subcutaneous injection, intraperitoneal injection, intramuscular injection, and intravenous injection.

7. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~agent~~ anti-PLA₂ antibody is mixed with a feed or food.

8. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the animals are selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ avians and mammals.

9. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the avians are selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ chickens, turkeys, ducks, pheasants, geese and quail.

10. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the mammals are

selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ swine animals, bovine animals, ovine animals and caprine animals.

11. (withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the animals are fish.

12. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~[[4]]~~ 1, wherein the step of administering the antibody comprises the step of feeding the animals an egg preparation that comprises an anti-PLA₂ antibody.

13. (currently amended) A method for increasing carcass yield in a target animal, the method comprising the step of administering to said target animal an anti-phospholipase A₂ (anti-PLA₂) antibody agent that can reduce bioavailability of a prostaglandin or leukotriene lipid precursor in the target animal in an amount sufficient to increase the carcass yield.

14-16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the ~~agent~~ anti-PLA₂ antibody is administered by a method selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ injection and oral delivery.

18. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the ~~agent~~ anti-PLA₂ antibody is administered by an injection method selected from subcutaneous injection, intraperitoneal injection, intramuscular injection, and intravenous injection.

19. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the ~~agent~~ anti-PLA₂ antibody is mixed with a feed or food.

20. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the animal is selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ an avian and a mammal.

21. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 20, wherein the avian is selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ a chicken, a turkey, a duck, a pheasant, a goose and a quail.

22. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 20, wherein the mammal is selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ a swine animal, a bovine animal, an ovine animal and a caprine animal.

23. (withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the animal is a fish.

24. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~16~~ 13, wherein the step of administering the antibody comprises the step of feeding the animal an egg preparation that comprises an anti-PLA₂ antibody.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the target group of animals is a group of chickens and the agent is administered by oral delivery.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the target animal is a chicken and the agent is administered by oral delivery.

27. (new) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of observing an improvement in body weight uniformity.

28. (new) The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of observing an increase in carcass yield.